VVA #1 2/5/94

6:19 - mom. silence for POW + families + homeless.

Steve submitted an article to Herald saying we are against the lifting of the embargo. Should be printed this week.

No sec. Report - none due to two months of snow dates.

Treas. Rep - Clark absent due to flu. bal 1458.56 as of 2/1 - Actual bal. of 400-600. VAO lent us $800 - Kym moved to pay it back immediately, Beth 2nd, passed.

BOD meeting - Elections coming in Apr. All positions open. Me + John B. are nominating committee. Will accept nom. up til the election time. Also need color guard members. ~~[illegible]~~ A press release was issued on membership drive. Picked up 8 members so far. Loyalty Day Parade - Steve wants to do a float. Anybody who wants to help call Steve.

Condolences to Pappy + Beth
Loss of Bruce Nelson.

Donations of $25 are being sent to the memorial causes.

Bruce worked w/ our people + helped to open up Veterans issues.

Community Outreach - Want a com. to look into ways to help the comm. (title & not exact - Don thinks there is a Standing com.) Don points out the importance of a full slate of officers - including all VVA Nat. standing com.

POW - (NE Network) Legion (Nat) sent a letter to Clinton saying they opposed the lifting of embargo. Orson Swindle organized a letter from 70 X-POW's opposing it. Obviously he ignored it. Bill B. asks if VVA Nat has made a stance - all Nat. Vet. orgs opposed the lifting of the embargo. Bobby Muller's

Network Conf. March 26 12-5 pm
same place. Speakers: Tom Burch + (Nat Viet Vet Coalition)
Orson Swindle + Sharon Rosabeck.

Don - lifting the embargo should affect us 2 ways - need to push even harder at what we have been doing. - Also need to be of service always to the family members who must be terrified. Vets have become complacent + the gov. is trying to take over + do things like the embargo + what took place when they wanted to open the VA hosp. Make Loyalty Day a protest of the treatment of the gov. toward vets.

(During the previous meeting Jim H. was reading a mag., now he is talking to Barnes + playing with the dog!)

Kym's idea for Loyalty Day: 4 young college girls carrying banner saying 20 yrs ago my father marched off to war... followed by sharp dressed class A uniform w/ medals - followed by Mr Politician + Mr businessman collecting cash from Vietnam followed by the cage, w/ pajamas

followed by body bags followed by wooden box. These things can all be carried + therefore we are a marching unit + that's all we need to say. Jim wants to bring family members. Wheels in process - ideas to Steve - Jim using his contacts - he is doing a mailing for Network Conf. + will include this.

D Doyle NH (Tilton) having a stand down for homeless vets in June. VVA NH state council in charge of logistics.
Jeffords, Leahy, Sanders have set up a com. for homeless vets - driving force is Sanders. Dick is on it. Early stages - Vet Vets of Valley are looking at a transitional home.

Steve met w/ ~~the~~ State head of DAV - he mainly wanted our disabled vets to join DAV - Steve asked him if he would join ours - no answer.

Discussion on membership needs, election needs, out lying areas, notification etc. Steve is pressing for issues to be addressed + how we can help

BOD voted down forming a State Council.

Barnes wants people to know about his monthly radio program on WJTR thru VAD. Wants to use it as a forum.

April 23rd - Sat. Vets only sm. Bus. Entrep. Training Course on interactive TV.

Kym talks about Adam Day 6 yr old w/ usually fatal cancer + suggests it as a community fundraiser. Canisters were put out in Pittsford + $600 was collected. Melody wants to do a bake sale at mall the weekend of the 21st to benefit Adam.

Wall coming to Bennington Aug 28th - Sept 10th at VA Home.

Adjourn
8 pm

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Meeting came to order at 6:20.
Melody presented Kym with a check for $100
for Adam Day from the bake sale she stage

Kym says she felt let down because no one
helped Melody withe the bake sale.

Steve turned the Chapter over to Joe
+ resigned citing several reasons mainly
lack of support, etc. etc, + walks out.

From this point on we discussed the
future of VVA off the record.